

**Remarks**

Claims 1-31 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-23 have been amended. Claim 24-31 have been added.

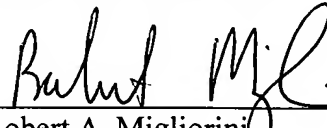
The amendments to claims 1-23 set forth herein are made to eliminate multiple dependencies, and also to place the claims in proper format for U.S. examination. Claim 13 has been rewritten to add "clays" and "micro" silica to the group of pulverant inorganic fillers. This amendment is fully supported in the specification on page 22, lines 10-14. Claim 22 has been rewritten to place it in the proper format of a method claim for U.S. examination. This amendment is fully supported in the specification on page 26, line 28 to page 28, line 12. New claims 24-31 are added to eliminate multiple range limitations in original claims 4, 15, 17, and 19-21. These new dependent claims are fully supported by the specification and the original claims.

None of the amendments are made for reasons related to patentability of the invention and none of the amendments are intended to narrow any of the claims as compared to the claims in the application as filed. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the above identified patent application is in condition for allowance. Early notification of the allowability of claims 1-31 is courteously solicited.

No additional fees are believed to be required with the filing of this preliminary amendment, however if any other fee is required, or otherwise necessary to cover any deficiency in fees already paid, authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1402.

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Respectfully submitted,

  
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